

NOTICE OF FILING AND PUBLIC HEARING

D.T.E. 03-129

January 9, 2004

Petition of Boston Edison Company d/b/a NSTAR Electric, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 14, for authorization to issue long-term debt securities not to exceed \$500 million; for an exemption from the advertising requirements of G.L. c. 164, § 15; and for an exemption from the par value requirements of G.L. c. 164, § 15A.

Boston Edison Company, d/b/a NSTAR Electric ("Company") has filed a petition with the Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department") requesting approval to issue and sell from time to time, on or before December 31, 2005, long-term debt securities in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$500,000,000. General Laws c. 164, § 14 requires electric companies to obtain the approval of the Department prior to issuing indebtedness payable at a period of more than one year. According to the Company, it will use the proceeds of such issuances for payment at maturity of certain outstanding long-term debt securities; for the refinancing of long-term debt and/or equity securities; for the payment of capital expenditures incurred by the Company for extensions, additions and improvements to the Company's utility plant and properties or for the payment of obligations of the Company incurred for such purposes; for the repayment of short-term debt balances; for debt service reserve funds and similarly required funds in the case of tax-exempt loans; and/or for general working capital purposes. The Company is also requesting an exemption from the advertising requirements of G.L. c. 164, § 15, and an exemption from the par value requirements of G.L. c. 164, § 15A.

The Department will conduct a public hearing to receive comments on the Company's petition, immediately followed by an evidentiary hearing. The hearing will take place on Thursday, February 26, 2004, at 10:00 a.m. at the Department's offices, One South Station - 2nd Floor, Boston, MA 02110. Any person who desires to comment may do so at the public hearing or submit written comments to the Department not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on Thursday, February 25, 2004.

Any person who desires to participate in the evidentiary phase of this proceeding must file a written petition for leave to intervene with the Department not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on Thursday, February 19, 2004. A petition for leave to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 C.M.R. § 1.03, including a description of the manner in which the petitioner is substantially and specifically affected by this

proceeding. Receipt by the Department, not mailing, constitutes filing and determines whether a petition has been timely filed. A late filed petition may be disallowed as untimely, unless good cause is shown for waiver under 220 C.M.R. § 1.01(4). To be allowed, a petition under 220 C.M.R. § 1.03(1) must satisfy the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A, § 10.

An original and four (4) copies of all written comments or petitions to intervene must be filed with Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications and Energy, One South Station - 2nd Floor, Boston, MA 02110. One copy of all written comments and petitions to intervene should also be sent to counsel for the Company, Robert N. Werlin, Keegan, Werlin, & Pabian, LLP, 21 Custom House Street, Boston, MA 02110-3525, (617) 951-1400.

Please submit all your filings to the Department in electronic format using one of the following methods:

(1) by e-mail attachment to dte.efiling@state.ma.us; or (2) on a 3.5" disk, IBM-compatible format. The text of the e-mail or the disk label must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.T.E. 03-129), (2) name of the person or company submitting the filing, and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document. The electronic filing should also include the name, title, and phone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing. Text responses should be written in either Corel Word Perfect (naming the document with a ".wpd" suffix), in Microsoft Word (naming the document with a ".doc" suffix) or as an Adobe PDF file (naming the document with a ".pdf" suffix). Data or spreadsheet responses should be compatible with Microsoft Excel. All filings submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's web site: <http://www.mass.gov/dpu>.

A copy of the Company's petition is available for inspection Monday through Friday, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., at the Department's offices at One South Station - 2nd Floor, Boston, MA, and at the offices of the Company, 800 Boylston Street, Boston, MA. A copy of the Company's petition is also available on the Department's web site: <http://www.mass.gov/dpu>.